

D J
#2 117-02
JDS w/Replies

IN THE UNITED STATES
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

PATENT APPLICATION

Inventor(s): Joern Ostermann, et al.

Docket No.: 2000-0600C

Application No.:

Filing Date:

Examiner Name:

Group Art Unit:

Title: System And Method For Sending Multi-Media Messages Using
Customizable Background Images

jc760 U.S. PTO
10/003093
11/02/01



THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO/SB/08A. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each reference is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(h), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to be an admission that the information cited in the statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in §1.56(b).

1. This information disclosure statement is being filed within three months of the filing date of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under §1.53(d); within three months of the date of the entry of the national stage as set forth in §1.491 in an international application; before the mailing of a first Office action on the merits; or before the mailing of a first Office action after the filing of a request for continued examination under §1.114. No certification or fee is required. (37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)).
2. This information disclosure statement is being filed more than three months after the filing date of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under §1.53(d); more than three months after the date of the entry of the national stage as set forth in §1.491 in an international application, after the mailing date of a first Office action on the merits, or after the mailing of a first Office action after the filing of a request for continued examination under §1.114, but before the mailing date of any of a Final action under §1.113, a Notice of Allowance under §1.311 or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application. (37 C.F.R. §1.97(c)).

- a. I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this information disclosure statement. (37 C.F.R. §1.97 (e)(1)).
 - b. I hereby certify that no item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this information disclosure statement. (37 C.F.R. §1.97 (e)(2)).
 - c. Please debit Deposit Account No. 01-2745 in the amount of \$180.00 to cover the fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) and to ensure consideration of the disclosed information.
3. This information disclosure statement is being filed after the mailing date of any of a Final action under §1.113, a Notice of Allowance under §1.311, or an action which otherwise closes prosecution, whichever occurs first, but on or before payment of the Issue Fee. (37 C.F.R. §1.97(d)).
- a. I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this information disclosure statement. (37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(1)).
 - b. I hereby certify that no item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this information disclosure statement. (37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(2)).
 - c. Please debit Deposit Account No. 01-2745 in the amount of \$180.00 to cover the fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) and ensure consideration of the disclosed information.

Respectfully,

Date: Nov. 2, 2001

AT&T CORP.
P.O. Box 4110
Middletown, New Jersey 07748-4110

By: Thomas M. Isaacson

Thomas M. Isaacson, Attorney
Reg. No.: 44166
T: 410-257-5485
F: 732-368-6932

<p>Substitute for form 1449A/PTO</p> <p>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</p> <p>(use as many sheets as necessary)</p>			Complete if Known		
			Application Number		
			Filing Date		
			First Name Inventor		Joern Ostermann et al
			Group Art Unit		
			Examiner Name		
Sheet	1	of	2	Attorney Docket Number	2000-0600C

PRO
 3603
 USPTO
 10/10/2001
 11/11/2001
 10/10/2001
 11/11/2001

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figure Appears
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			
	AA	6,233,544	B1	H. Alshawi	05/15/2001	
	AB	6,195,631	B1	H. Alshawi et al	02/27/2001	
	AC	6,161,082		R. G. Goldberg et al	12/12/2000	
	AD	5,963,217		G. D. Grayson	10/05/1999	
	AE	5,995,119		E. Cosatto et al	11/30/1999	
	AF	6,122,177		M. Kitano	09/19/2000	
	AG	6,173,250	B1	K. Jong	01/09/2001	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figure Appears	T ⁴
		Office ³	Number (if known)	Kind Code ²				
								<input type="checkbox"/>
								<input type="checkbox"/>
								<input type="checkbox"/>
								<input type="checkbox"/>
								<input type="checkbox"/>
								<input type="checkbox"/>
								<input type="checkbox"/>
								<input type="checkbox"/>
Examiner Signature					Date Considered			

*EXAMINER: Initial if referenced considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 4 For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. 5 Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. 6 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Box Patent Application, Washington, D.C. 20231

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO				Complete If Known	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT				Application Number	
(use as many sheets as necessary)				Filing Date	
				First Name Inventor	Joern Ostermann et al
				Group Art Unit	
				Examiner Name	
Sheet	2	of	2	Attorney Docket Number	2000-0600C

OTHER PRIOR ART -- NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²
	AH	"Photo-realistic Talking-heads From Image Samples," by E. Cosatto and H. P. Graf, IEEE Transactions on Multimedia, Sept. 2000, Vol. 2, issue 3, pages 152-163.	<input type="checkbox"/>
	AI	"Audio-Visual Speech Modeling for Continuous Speech Recognition," IEEE Trans. on MultiMedia, Vol. 2, No. 3, Sept. 2000.	<input type="checkbox"/>
	AJ	"TTS Based Very Low Bit Rate Speech Coder, by K-S. Lee and R. V. Cox, Proc. ICASSP 1999, Vol. I, March 1999, pp. 181-184.	<input type="checkbox"/>
	AK	"Emu: An E-mail Preprocessor for Text-to-Speech," by Richard Sproat, Jianying Hu, and Hao Chen, IEEE Signal Processing Society 1998 Workshop on Multimedia Signal Processing, Dec. 7-9, 1998, Los Angeles, CA., USA.	<input type="checkbox"/>
	AL	"Trends of ASR and TTS Applications in Japan," Proc. of International Workshop on Interactive Voice Technology for Telecommunications Applications (IVTTA96), Sept. 1996.	<input type="checkbox"/>

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
--------------------	-----------------

*EXAMINER: Initial if referenced considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language translation is attached.

SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Box Patent Application, Washington, D.C. 20231